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Editorial

Editorial Foreword

The International Review of Law (IRL) continues its tradition of publishing unbiased innovative legal research in Arabic and English that reflects the latest legal developments in the region and the world. We are pleased to present the Blockade Special Issue that comprises 10 research papers discussing the blockade from a legal and scientific perspective.

The first paper (Hetham Abu Karky and Basem M. Melhem) addresses the impact of the blockade in creating and strengthening dominant positions that may violate the competition law in Qatar and highlights the necessary steps to prevent the misuse of these positions in contravention of the Qatari law of Protection of Competition and Prevention of Monopolistic Practices. The second paper (Salah Salman Zaineddin and Khaled Saleh Al-Shamari) discusses the blockade of Qatar between legal justice and political arbitrariness underlining the “unjust” and “oppressive” aspect of the blockade. The third paper (Khalifa Ahmed Al-Sayd and Ali Ben Mbarek) studies the blockade imposed on Qatar from the perspective of international treaties and resulting responsibilities, while the fourth paper (Ibrahim Mohamed Alanani) highlights the significant role of diplomacy and its internationally known various means in dealing with crises. The fifth paper (Anwar Masadeh) addresses the spreading of cybercrime and the need for necessary legislations to combat it. The sixth paper (Mohammad Ammar Ghazal) sheds light on the consequences of the blockade imposed on Qatar on mixed Gulf families and the seventh one (Nisreen Mahasneh) highlights the legal impact of the blockade on Qatar as to contractual obligations according to international trade law. The eighth paper (Abdelnaser Zeyad Hayajneh) highlights the violation of the principle of sports neutrality in the Gulf crisis and the ways to face such violations. The ninth paper (Rafael Dean Brown) discusses the origin, purpose and characteristics of a capability maturity model and its adoption in the cybersecurity domain and proposes a Qatar Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model (Q-C2M2) with a legislative framework. The tenth paper (Yaser Khalaileh) discusses the possibility of producing a specific legal framework on the use of economic sanctions, especially in the blockade of Qatar and the last paper (Paula Marie Young) is a review of the book titled “Stories Mediators Tell” (by Lela Love and Glen Parker).

I would like to send a note of gratitude to all authors for their contributions, which continue to make the IRL an reliable reference to scholars in the region and the world.

I would also like to seize the opportunity to welcome Prof. Sonia Mallek in her new role as new Editor-In-Chief of the IRL and I trust that she will continue to work for the success of the journal. I will continue to serve Qatar University and the community in my new appointment as Director of QU Press and I look forward to the continuation of our productive cooperation.

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